

THE
PATRIOT;

O R,

The *Irish* PACKET Open'd.



L O N D O N:

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T H E
P A T R I O T.

N U M B. I.

T H U R S D A Y, *October*, 25th, 1753.

WHENEVER the real Interests of our Country are at Stake, whenever our Liberties and Properties are in Danger; I think it is the indispensable Duty of every Lover of his Country to proclaim the Alarm. For my Part, I am resolved, as far as in me lies, to expose the Dangers we are threatned with. I cannot avoid having a Look-out for, and apprehending Shoals and Rocks in a tempestuous Sea, especially, when it is to be feared that a wicked or unskilful Pilot should in the Absence of the Master, assume the Helm and endanger the Vessel.

IF my Labours should conduce in any Measure to open the Eyes of my Countrymen; if this Alarm should deter those who meditate our Destruction from putting their wicked Schemes in practice, my Wishes are then accomplished: But if none of these happen, if my Countrymen are deaf to the Call, if the Wicked still persevere in their fatal Projects for undoing this unhappy Country; I shall have nothing left but the Satisfaction of my own Conscience to support me under the unhappy Consequences and Effects of being governed by a corrupt and ambitious Churchman.

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THIS is the last Struggle and Effort the People of Ireland have left for Freedom; and should we now miscarry in this, we may sit down, and idly shew our Affections for our ruined Country, and fruitlessly bewail the Loss of our Liberties, but shall never meet with another Opportunity of exerting ourselves in it's Defence.

IN endeavouring to set right the Minds of my Countrymen, before it be too late; I shall content myself with much fewer Arguments than might be urged on this Occasion; for I should almost despair of being survived by the Liberties of Ireland, if I could imagine there was a Necessity of saying much in a Case not only of such irresistible Evidence and Demonstration, but also of the utmost Concern and Importance to us.

I HOPE it need not now be told, that Parliaments were first intended for a Support to the King's just Prerogative, and a Protection to the Subjects in their as just Rights and Priviledges; for maintaining all due Honour to the executive Power, and all suitable Respect and Encouragement to those who are entrusted with the Administration of the Laws; for a Check and Curb to insolent and licentious Ministers, and a Terror to ill-designing Statesmen; for giving their Advice to his Majesty in all Matters of Importance, and representing the Grievances under which the Nation groans; for making necessary Laws to preserve our Constitution, and improve our Manufactures; and for abrogating such as were found burdensome; for giving the King Money to defray the Charges and Expences of the Government; for examining and inspecting the Publick Accounts, to know if the Money be applyed to it's true Use and Purposes; in short, for the best Security imaginable to his Majesty's Honour

Honour and royal Dignities, and the Liberties, Lives, and Estates of his Subjects.

THIS being the true Use and Design of Parliaments, let us see whether an House of Commons, who have not Virtue enough to resist the Arts that may be used to influence their Voices, can answer the noble and laudable Ends of their Institution: This is a Question easily answered; for though nobody will presume to say, that the present Times afford Instances of Venality or Corruption, yet from common Sense we can determine whether an Assembly filled with Delinquents will call themselves to an Account, or what Account would be given if they should? Whether there is any hopes of Justice where the Malefactors are the Judges? Whether his Majesty can be rightly informed in Affairs relating to himself and the Public, when they are represented to him only by such Persons as design to abuse him? Whether the Public Accounts will be faithfully inspected by those who embezzle our Money to their own Use? Whether the King's Prerogative can be lawfully maintained by such as only pervert it to their own sinister Ends and Purposes? Whether a Parliament can be a true Balance, where all the Weight lies only in one Scale? Or whether an House of Commons can vote freely who are either prepossessed with Hopes or Promises of enjoying Places, or the slavish Fears of losing them? It is needless to ask such Questions as these, I shall therefore leave this invidious Subject.

SINCE then our Liberties are secured by a Parliament of such Integrity, that if even all the Arts of Power were made use of, it would be impossible to shake it, what are our Complaints? It is an established Rule in all free Governments, that Power to enslave the People ought not to be entrusted in any Man's Hands upon the fairest Pretences and most solemn

Promises, that such Power shall be used to establish their Freedom. How then ought we to be alarmed at seeing a Man whose Interest is divided from us, grasping at the Reins of Government, and endeavouring to wrest them from the Hands of one, whose Truth and Uprightness has been tried, whose Steadiness in the Cause of Liberty approved, and Loyalty in Support of the Blessings we enjoy under the best of Kings, universally known and applauded; who can think his Estate, his Liberty, or his Life in safety; when he sees they are remov'd from the Care of such a faithful Guardian, to be entrusted to an imperious Usurper, laid at the Mercy of Hirelings. What avails it to be under a Governour who professes his Zeal for the Welfare of this Kingdom, if in his Absence we are left at the Mercy of this Conspirator against his Honour, and this Country's Advantage. But the Nation is roused, provok'd that a traiterous and insinuating Parasite should inspire into the royal Breast Jealousies against a loyal and deserving People. It is to be hoped my Countrymen will no longer be imposed upon, but that they will pass their severest Censures on this Disturber of our Peace; that they will no longer resemble a Flock of Sheep (as Cato said of the Romans in his Time) that follow the Bell-Weather, and are content; that they will at last vindicate the Honour of their Country, and imitate their wise Ancestors in hunting down this Beast of Prey, this noxious Vermin of the Commonwealth; rather than suffer themselves to be led by one mighty Nimrod, who upon turning up his Nose expects a full Cry of sequacious Animals who must either join Voices, or be turned out of the Pack.

BEHOLD the Invader of our Liberties, to whom every Vice is familiar, 'midst the Acclamations of Slaves and Pathics meditating our Ruin; from
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this profligate and villainous Tribe what are we not to apprehend? the Disgrace of our best Patriots, the Establishment of Slavery, the Loss of our most *valuable Manufactures*, and Decay of Trade. Vices that are abominable in the Sight of God and Man introduced by a rampant——and lurking behind the Veil of Religion; in short the Depravation of Manners and almost utter Extirpation of Virtue and moral Honesty.

ARISE ye Patriots, let not at this Crisis, your Eyes be blinded by the Dust of Gold, nor your Tongues locked up with silver Keys, but boldly stand forth for the Rescue of your Country thus ravished in your very Presence; prescribed Limits to the Ambition of this aspiring Priest; the Almighty hath set Bounds to the Ocean, and said unto it, hither shall thy proud Waves come and no farther; do you in Imitation of the Divinity, say unto this Papal-like Engrosser of all Power, hither shall thy Ambition come and no farther; were it not for you, we should not now have the Liberty of warning one another against falling into the Shares that have been laid for us. On this Occasion stand firmly together, repair the shattered Vessel of the Commonwealth, retrieve it's Honour, revive it's drooping Genius, give Force to it's Laws, suffer not the Guilty to sculk behind the Chair of Authority for Protection, and if possible restore our fading Liberties; but above all, expose the Person, who has been by his Ambition, the Scource of our Misfortunes, to the universal Hatred and Reproach of Mankind.

T H E



T H E
P A T R I O T.
N U M B. II.

Thursday, November, 1st, 1753.

*Virtus, Probitas, Integritas in Candidato, non Linguae
Volubilitas, non Ars, non Scientia requiri Solet.*

CICERO.

MR. *Addison* observes, that there is no greater Sign of a general Decay of Virtue in a Nation, than a want of Zeal in its Inhabitants for the Good of their Country. To rouse this public spirited Passion is the Design of this Undertaking. As I shall be often obliged to speak bold Truths, I am not ignorant to what Censures and Calumny I expose myself: A true Patriot however must comfort himself under the Attacks of Falshood and Obloquy, from the Reflection that he is labouring for the Good of his Country, and the Consciousness of his own Integrity.

A CONCERN for the safety of our Country is the most sublime and extensive of all social Virtues, as it does not only promote the Well-Being of those who are our Cotemporaries, but likewise of their Children and Posterity; at least, we find so many Blessings naturally flowing from this noble Principle, that in Proportion as it prevails, every Nation becomes prosperous and flourishing. Patriots naturall rise out of *Spartan* or *Roman* Virtue; and
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there is nothing more common amongst the antient Historians, than Examples which teach us, that whenever the State was corrupted, it was in Danger of being betrayed or sold.

As a Party of Men have lately made it their Business to represent Patriotism as chimerical and romantic, to destroy in the Minds of People the Sense of national Glory, and turn into Ridicule this Spirit for which our Ancestors were particularly famous; it may not be improper to explain what I understand by the Title I have chosen for this Paper.

I SHALL not here enumerate all those pompous Virtues wherewith the romantic Modellers of a *Platonic* or *Utopian* Commonwealth dress their imaginary Hero; when the Character even of a real *Cato* would perhaps be as little regarded now, as he himself was, by the corrupt Age wherein he lived. Not but our Nation can boast of as great Heroes, as Antiquity ever produced; Men, who deserve to stand foremost in the List of Fame, as the **DEFENDERS OF THEIR COUNTRY.** All the Qualifications I desire to find in the Man worthy of this Title, are only such as it would be an Affront to any Gentleman to think him destitute of, Sense, Integrity, and Courage; let him but follow their Dictates, and all the Duties, which we may think incumbent on him, will be as easily performed by him, as they are demonstrable to be the natural and obvious Consequences of such Principles; for an ignorant Man cannot, a dishonest Man will not, and a Coward dares not be a **TRUE PATRIOT.**

THE Sense here required is not the Learning of Universities, but the Knowledge of our Constitution; a Sense of Liberty, of what it meant by our Rights and Properties; a Sense of our Laws and Interest,

Interest, of the Nature of our Government, and of our natural Strength and Welfare. If his Head is ever so full of the Systems of foreign Constitutions, whilst he understands not our Domestic Affairs; if he has travelled ever so far for Experience, and is a Stranger to the true Interest of this Island; he may make a loquacious Politician, a florid Orator, a Statesman in Speculation, but he will never make a useful Member of the Common-Wealth. His Knowledge will be as unprofitable as that of the Theorist of *Ephesus*, who, declaiming on the military Art before *Hannibal*, though applauded by the rest of his Audience, was laugh'd at by that great General. He must understand our Manufactures, the natural Products of our Country, the Balance of Trade, what Importations or Exportations are to be encouraged, or prohibited; he must have such a Property in the Kingdom, that he may be so far interested as to give his impartial Judgment of the Methods to remedy those Grievances of which he is himself a Sharer.

THE true Patriot is a Friend to no Party, he has a laudable Freedom of Thought, which unshackles his Mind from narrow Prejudices, and opens his Eyes to a more extensive View of the Public Good. His only Aim is the Honour, Safety, and Interest of his Country; on this Mark he keeps his Eye constantly fixed, nor can the dreadful Frowns of Power, or the subtle Insinuations of Flattery ever move from him his Point. He finds his true Reward in Virtue; and is equally insensible to the promising Smiles of fawning Great Ones that would tempt, and the Menaces of the fiercest Tyrants that would force him to forsake her. Threats only making him more watchful and resolute: He derides the Folly, and pities the Manners of those, who forfeit their Honesty, to found
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their Happiness on the unstable Basis of Court Favours, or false Applause. He truly enjoys all that Freedom in his Actions, which he thinks it his Duty to procure for, and to defend his Countrymen in. He is wholly a Stranger to the Allurements of servile Ambition; as he fears not Censure, nor regards the Slanders against which Innocence itself is not Armour Proof, he is directed, influenced, and byassed by none; and whilst he is engaged in his Country's Service, he thinks the most glorious Epithets the World can fix on him, are those of a RIGID, INFLEXIBLE, HONEST MAN.

As he respects and honours those to whom his Majesty hath entrusted the Sword of Power, well understanding that the Interest and Safety of a Kingdom lies in maintaining the Honour and Dignity of the King and the Prerogative of his Crown, he is never led astray by the vain Spirit of Opposition; but condemns the Principles of such as imagine they can never be in the Wrong, so long as they oppose Ministers of State; and think there is a kind of Slavery in concurring with the Measures of Great Men. When we find the Good of his Country consistent with the Inclinations of the Court, he chearfully joins his Efforts with theirs to bring about that great End. But when he discovers that any Set of Men have Designs contrary to the public Good, let their Authority and Power be ever so great, he opposes their Opinions with all the Courage and Zeal his generous Principles furnish him with, without any Respect to their Persons. He imitates the Example of *Demosthenes*, who used to advise the *Athenians*, when they took into their Hands the Balls by which they gave their Voices, that they should elevate their Thoughts, and lay aside those Views which their private Circumstances might represent to

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them, and assume Sentiments agreeable to the Importance of their Trust, and the Dignity of their Station.

BUT now I find myself obliged to take my Hand from the Tablet, lest, instead of completing the Portraiture of the Man worthy to guard the Liberties of a free People, I should insensibly touch upon those who deserve another Character; my Intention being, like my honest Patriot's, willingly to offend no Man: I shall take my Leave of him at present with this Remark, that the Nation, where such a Man presides at the Helm, will be altogether as happy and secure, as if it was steer'd by *Plato's* governing Philosophers. A Prince encircled with such a Parliament, is then in his imperial Lustre more glorious than any Monarch of the East; then he infallibly becomes the Terror of his Foes, the Support of his Friends, and the Delight of his People. There is nothing within the Compass of human Wishes that we might not assure ourselves from the Wisdom of such a glorious Assembly, headed by one of such Resolution and Integrity, and encouraged by a King, who is willing to hear and redress the Grievances of his People; and who thinks it his greatest Happiness to erect his Throne on the Hearts of his Subjects.

WHILST the Nation is thus secured, in vain shall our Enemies strive to infatuate our Prudence, stagger our Constancy, sully our Reputation, and betray us to a total Defection from all true Principles of Liberty: In vain shall Malice whisper, that amongst such glorious Spirits, there can be found any Man at this Crisis falling in with the Measures of our great Enemy, and deserting the Cause of Freedom, of which he was believed to be the most vigorous Assertor; who was so far possessed with the seeming Spirit of Liberty, that it transported him

him to unwarrantable Excesses, who was on this Account by many of his deluded Hearers, distinguished with the Title of the HONEST MAN. Could such an Apostate be found, I should think it my Duty to expose his naked Heart to the World, strip him of his false Honours, and brand him with the juster Appellation of the MOCK-PATRIOT. Let not our Enemies take Advantage of such Degeneracy, and triumph as if the noble Fire of Patriotism was extinguished amongst us. We have been lately convinced that it is possible even in this Age, that a disinterested Zeal for the public Good may be the prevailing Passion in many Breasts; and whilst ROGER lives, we are certain that one Man exists in whom the innate Love of his Country remains unmixed with any sordid or mercenary Views.



T H E
P A T R I O T.
N U M B. III.

Thursday, November, 8th. 1753.

*Falsus Honor juvat, et mendax Infamia terret
Quem, nisi mendosum et mendacem?* HOR.

IN my last Paper, I endeavoured to restore the Name of the Patriot to it's antient Honour, by taking it out of the Hands of Impostors, by clearing it from the Aspersions of mercenary and designing Slanderers; and by reconciling it to the

virtuous and honest, who only have a just Claim to it; I shall in this, consider the Arts by which some late Writers have attempted to bring the Love of our Country into Disrepute.

VICE in Power will always meet with Adulation; but as it is well known, that such Praises only serve like Odours of Incense to perfume a Sepulchre; I had laid down a Resolution to take no Notice of those servile Panegerists, where the Appetite sharpens Invention, and the hungry Belly vents Oracles: But as we have lately seen the Scripture on the Rack taught to patronize Impiety, and to translate the brazen Image of an Oppressor into Gold; as we have heard the seeming Virtues, and imaginary Abilities of vicious Men magnified, and even their Errors with Veneration concealed, extenuated, or justified; I think it necessary to make a few Observations on this Subject, lest unthinking People should be led astray by false Appearances. For these Authors are like the barbarous Wretches on some Parts of our Coasts, who, when they see a Ship distressed in a Storm, hold out false Lights to deceive the unhappy Sufferers by the Prospect of Safety; and draw them to Destruction, in Hopes of gaining some private Advantage from the wrecked Vessel. If I was silent at such a Time, I should think myself wanting in my Duty to my Countrymen; and unmindful of the Intention I at first proposed in these Essays, of marking out the several Shoals and Quickfands which lie concealed, in Order to keep the ignorant and unwary from running upon them.

As there are no Doctrines or Tenets, however ridiculous or absurd, which have not obtained some Favourers or Profelytes; so there were never any Actions, however vile and impolitic, which have not found some Defenders, who have coloured them with plausible Pretences, and artful Representations.

tions. But as such Champions are sensible, that the Brightness of Truth would dazzle and confound them, if they were to meet her on fair Terms; they have Recourse to Arts unworthy a generous Adversary, they fly from the open Field, and form an artful Ambuscade, sculking behind the Shield of wretched Irony or dark Allegories, whence they shoot their secret Shafts of Malice. Hence, we always find in such Writers the Circumstances of Things overlooked or misrepresented; and mere Assertions insisted on without Proofs: They artfully elude the Question in Dispute, by drawing off the Reader's Attention to foreign Enquiries, or by perplexing the Argument with frivolous Subtleties. This Practice (used with too frequent Success) manifests the same wicked Disposition, as appears in vexing an honest Man with a tedious Law-suit, by involving him in the Tricks and Intricacies of Litigation, to defeat a just Title: It is a mean, tricking, Attorney-like Dexterity.

THEY who engage in the Defence of a bad Cause, are always perplexed and puzzled about the Praises of their Patron; on which Account, we observe some Glimmerings of Light and Truth break through the Cloud of Falsehood in which they would envelop his Deformities. Out of many, I shall at present bring but one Witness to prove this Assertion, though (perhaps it may be objected, that he is an *Irish* Evidence, and makes no Scruple of Swearing on both Sides) I mean the celebrated PATRICK; who, after leading his Readers through the flowery Maze of Delusion, at length frankly tells us, that his much applauded CHAPLAIN idled away all his Time in playing *Scotch-hop* and *Shuttlecock*, when he ought to be employed in reading some goodly Homily at Home. Sometimes, when closely hunted, they endeavour to blind the Eyes of their Pursuers with the Dirt of Scurrillity; imitating

tating the Ingenuity of the Scuttlefish, who, to evade his Enemy, spews out a black filthy Substance, which fouls the Water, and conceals him from their Sight. Others, after having in vain laboured to form a Party by Argument and Reason (the Force of which is always weak when employed to support a bad Cause) contrive to gather a Croud, by amusing their Readers with a Tale, or raise a Laugh by some ingenious Stroke of Ridicule; like the Missioner (lately mentioned in the public Papers) who, being sent to *Languedoc* to convert the *Hugonots*, when he found that the People refused to attend to his Preaching, played on a Flute in the Pulpit, in Hopes that the ridiculous Figure he made would assemble a Congregation.

PRAISE when bestowed on the unworthy, requires a very masterly Hand, that the Generality of Readers shall not understand the Author in an ironical Sense. It is a difficult Task to make a Saint an Atheist, or a Patriot of a Profligate. Lord *Shaftsbury* observes, “ that in some Sorts of lim-
 “ ning, there is Danger lest the Hand should dis-
 “ grace the Subject; Vile Encomiums and wretch-
 “ ed Panegerics are the worst Sort of Satyr.” This Observation will want no further Proof to confirm it with those who are acquainted with the Works of a late CANDID ENQUIRER, who was at first suspected by every Body for the secret Intention of defaming his Patron; for inadvertently endeavouring to add new Lustre to his Portrait, he rubbed off the *Varnish* from the *Blotches*, and betrayed such a *Foulness underneath*, as obliged his Master to discountenance his Work, and disclaim the Picture, where Libertinism, Irreligion, and Pride, stared him in the Face. This Author being beaten from the Field with Shame and Disgrace, we were surprized to see him again enter the Lists
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in a different Dress. I can only account for this Proceeding by a Story from Lord *Bacon*. " There was a Gentleman came to the Tilt in an Orange-tawny, and ran very ill ; the next Day he came again all in Green and ran worse. One of the Lookers on, asked another, what is the Reason that this Gentleman changeth his Colours ? The other answered, sure, because it may be reported, that the Gentleman in Green, ran worse than the Gentleman in Orange-tawny."

I KNOW not whether the low Arts to which we see such a Scribler reduced, most deserve our Pity or Contempt. His Situation, if he hath any Sense of Virtue and Honesty left, is very unhappy ; as it is his Business to assert Falsehoods, maintain Absurdities, and reconcile Contradictions : nay, he is frequently obliged to disavow the Principles he formerly embraced, and chop about like the Pennant of a King's Ship with every State Wind.

As these Observations may recall, to the Readers Mind, a late Pamphlet entitled the *Spirit of Party*, it may perhaps be expected, that I should more particularly examine that Performance. It would be a Task of too much Dirt and Labour to clear away the Rubbish, and discover the weak Foundation on which this Gentleman's System of Politicks is built, and to expose the false Reasonings by which it is supported. We should find the material Points reduced to a very small Compass, when disembroiled of all those Incohærences and independent Matters that are woven into this motley Piece. The Absurdities contained in it would persuade any Person of unbiassed Judgment, to class it with those which are commonly called nonsensical ; but *Hudibras* (who defines Nonsense, that which is neither true or false) secures the Author from this Censure ; as the Falsehoods therein

therein are at least as numerous as the Absurdities. An unmeaning Introduction spun out to a tedious Length supplies the Place of Argument and Reason ; when his jaded Invention fails, or perhaps whilst he waits for his Cue from the great Man who employs him, he breaks off the Thread of his Tale before he well lets us know what he is about ; and after assuring us, that he will be more entertaining and *scurrilous* the next Time he vouchsafes to appear ; he leaves us in Suspence, *Quid feret hic tanto dignum Promisser biatu?* He seems to have taken the Hint of this new Method of Writing from the Musicians, who, before they began to play, flourish out some loose Notes in a proper Key, to awaken and please the Ear. Dr. *Swift* relates a Story of a Puppet-show, where the same Sort of Management was observed ; “ some Puppets of little or no Consequence appeared at the Window to allure the Boys and the Rabble : The Trumpeter sounded often, and the Door-keeper cried till he was hoarse, that they were just going to begin, yet the Company was forced sometimes to wait an Hour before *Punch* himself appeared in Person ;” who after all, entertained them only with scurrilous Jest, and indecent Ribaldry.

HORACE, in the Words which I have prefixed to this Paper, observes “ that no Man is soothed by the flattering Sound of false Praise, or startled at the Voice of Falshood and Obloquy ; but the Hypocrite who assumes the Outward Semblance of Honesty, whilst his Heart is defiled with Vice and Corruption.” The Shafts of Malice, when levelled against Virtue, either fall harmless to the Ground, or recoil from the Armour of Innocence to wound the Assailer. In vain then, shall Detraction depreciate or misrepresent the Conduct of the worthy *Seneschal*, whose Steadiness in opposing the Enemies of our Constitution, whose experienced

perienced Fidelity in supporting the true Interest and Honour of the Government, whose unbiassed Services in promoting the Welfare and Happiness of this Kingdom, will always be remembered with Gratitude by every loyal Subject, and true Lover of his Country. I shall say no more on this Head, as I am sensible it is as little in my Power to add to the Dignity of his Character, as it is in the Power of Calumny to lessen it.

It is to be lamented, that we generally reason with the greatest Impartially and Accuracy, upon those Topics which are of the least Consequence to us. The Prejudices, Passions, and Interests of Men being no Way engaged in those Kind of Reasonings, we consent to the Truth, as soon as we apprehend it, without any Reluctancy. Ask the FARMER, whether a Tree can flourish that is infested by noxious Vermin that undermine its Root, and corrupt its Branches; he will immediately answer in the Negative, and propose a Remedy for their Destruction. But if you happen to try him upon Political Propositions, full as evident as the other; and ask him, whether a Nation has cause to be alarmed when a sanctified Hypocrite, whose Principles are justly suspected, whose public Character is universally despised, and whose private Vices are a Reproach to Religion, Endeavours to pervert the Authority of his Superiors to his own ambitious Views, and arrogantly assumes the Disposal of all Preferments and Places that he may more effectually carry on his pernicious Schemes? Ask him, if Justice, Religion, and the public Safety do not call aloud on all Patriots to assert their violated Laws, and brand their Enemy with Infamy? I say, put these plain Questions to him, and instead of making a direct Answer, he will lead you a Dance through an intricate Labyrinth of Sophistry, and dive often out of Sight into so many Subterfuges, that it would be an endless Labour to pursue him.

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THOUGH there is little or no Hope of reclaiming such a Prostitute, who sells his Conscience for the Smiles of a Sycophant, and barter his Honesty for hire, I shall conclude this Paper with a few Words of Advice to him.

If he desires to have the Name of the FARMER revered, let him cultivate the Principles of Honour and Virtue in the generous Breast; let him prune the Luxuriancy of Vice and Corruption; let him employ his Labour to expose the hidden Canker that preys on the Heart of our Constitution; and to root out those poisonous Weeds, which by their baneful Influence taint the Air, lay waste the fair Fields of Liberty, and scatter Destruction round them. Would he deserve true Praise, let him pursue these Rules; and not rise, as it were by Night, to sow Tares in the Ground, where the good Husbandman has been at the Expence and Labour of sowing Wheat in the Heat of the Day. But above all, let him remember this Maxim, on which every public Writer should proceed, that the lowest Degeneracy he can sink into, is knowingly and deliberately to inculcate Errors, or obstruct the Progress of Truth. Nothing can pay the Price to a generous Mind, of so much as conniving at a pernicious Falsehood, which may prove fatal to the Peace and Happiness of his Country.

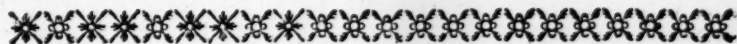
In the Press, and speedily will be published,

PATRIOTISM a JEST: In which it is clearly proved, that the *Linen Manufacture* is a Disadvantage to this Kingdom; which can never flourish till that Branch of Trade is thrown into the Hands of the *Scotch*. With some Observations shewing, that it is dangerous to the Liberties of the People to allow a Man of Property in IRELAND to have any Share in the Management of the State. *Credat Judæus.*

To which is added an Appendix, called,

A New Method of varnishing a rotten Cause; with the Art of Writing on both Sides a Question.

By JACKY GOOD. *In utrumque paratus.*



T H E
P A T R I O T.
N U M B. IV.

Thursday November, 15th, 1753.

*Raro antecedentem Scelestum
Deferuit pede Pæna claudo.*

HOR.

BY *Poyning's Law*, that great *Palladium* of the Liberties and Properties of the People of *England*, called *Magna Charta*, or the great Charter of Liberty, was rendered binding also to *Ireland*. In the Front of which Charter it is said, *nulli negabimus, nulli differemus justitiam*; we will defer or deny Justice to no Man. To this, all Persons who have the executive Power in the Legislature are sworn; and in any Case to deny Justice, or screen a notorious Offender from Punishment, is an open Violation of that Law; and a Breach in that Bulwark, which our Ancestors with such Wisdom, Pains, and Bloodshed erected to defend and protect the Constitution.

It must have given a sensible Pleasure to all true Patriots and Lovers of this Country without Doors, to hear of a Motion lately made for an Inquiry into the Conduct of a late Officer of the Crown; relating to his Compliance with the Injunctions in a former Resolution passed last Session of Parliament, Injunctions much more humane and mild, than he could either reasonably expect, or hope for, after so notorious a Breach of Trust

and Confidence reposed in him by his Sovereign and the Public ; as fully appears, from the printed REPORT, and the RESOLUTIONS of the House thereupon ; the Substance of which, as they are not in every Man's Hands, and cannot at this Juncture, be well made too public, I shall give a faithful Abstract of.

THEY begin by observing, “ that our late CHIEF GOVERNOR, took the most prudent Measures to execute the Trust reposed in him, for building and repairing Barracks ; As did likewise, their Excellencies the LORDS JUSTICES ; who particularly charged the UNDERTAKER, to be extremely cautious with whom he contracted ; especially, that they should be substantial, as well as honest and able Workmen ; that he should be particularly attentive to the several Materials to be made Use of ; That they should be the best, and most durable of their Kind ; and in the whole Conduct, and Progress of the several Works entrusted to his Care, that he should consider the Good and Convenience of his Majesty's Service ; and the Ends proposed by the House of Commons in their Address for having this Work executed.”

INSTEAD of following and observing these wise Instructions, it appeared, “ that he had contracted with Persons who were not Workmen ; and suffered others to make Use of the Names of Workmen as Contractors, though they were to have no Hand in the Work. That he allowed them extravagant Prices, raised the Rates of many Particulars, and charged the Nation with the same ; though the first Price contracted for, was more than sufficient ; and this he did in many Places unknown to the Contractor, who received no Part of the Money. That he made no sufficient Allowance for the old Materials of such Barracks as were rebuilt,
which

which ought to have been accounted for to the Public."

"THAT he paid off several Persons, though he knew they had not executed their Contracts; and obliged a Barrack-Master to give one Contractor, a Certificate that his Work was properly finished, though he knew to the contrary. That he took many of their own Affidavits, and Accounts of the Sufficiency of the Work and Materials. That he suffered his *corrupt Clerk* to contract for several Barracks, to draw up his own Estimates; and to take Money and Presents from other Contractors; And here it may not be thought unworthy of Notice, though *Comparisons are odious*, that the Disgrace of the great Chancellor *Bacon* was principally owing to his winking at the *Bribes* taken by his Servants. But to return to our UNDERTAKER, it appeared, that he had shewed unjustifiable Favour to several Contractors, to the great Detriment of the Public; that many of the Barracks were ill executed, unfit for the Reception, and dangerous to the Health, of his Majesty's Troops; in all which Proceedings, he acted without *Judgment, Care, or Oeconomy*; and departed in an *unwarrantable Manner* from the Scheme and Estimate approved of, by his Majesty; and frustrated the laudable Ends proposed by the House of Commons in their Address to the Lord Lieutenant."

ANOTHER Instance of this Person's Management, with Regard to the Public, though it doth not immediately relate to the Barrack Affair, as it may further serve to illustrate his Character may be here remembered. Having been detected in making a considerable Overcharge in the Repairs of the Parliament House; in Order to excuse himself, he confessed, he had included a considerable Sum in that Estimate, which no Way belonged to it, because that Sum had been stopped out of a Charge
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he had made for a former Work ; and thus he imitated the mean, deceitful Artifice of some low Tradesmen, who oblige their spendthrift Customers to pay a large Interest for the future, for any former Deductions they were justly forced to make them.

BUT notwithstanding these injudicious, careless, and unjustifiable Proceedings, to give them the mildest Epithets, he was treated with all the Lenity and Humanity imaginable ; and the only subsequent Resolution against him was, “ That he “ should at his own Expence, without any further “ Charge to the Public, be obliged to procure the “ several Persons with whom he had contracted, “ to make good their respective Works, and to “ staunch, and finish them in the most effectual “ Manner, so as to make them fit for the Reception of his Majesty’s Troops.” He might with great Justice, have probably then met with more severe Resolutions against him ; and not be allowed to atone so easily for his Neglect, and willfull Mistakes : But perhaps, it was not then thought so proper seemingly to distress any Servant of his Majesty, though ever so mean, least the Enemies of Patriotism, should then, as they have since done, misrepresent a more severe Proceeding against him, by calling it Opposition to the Measures of the Government ; a Cry too common from the Prime Minister to the lowest Place-man : But it is both unhuman and unjust to throw out Surmises, that all those who oppose Measures that they deem to be wrong, are wanting in their Duty to the Government ; for they neither Desire any Change in the Constitution, nor is it their Interest or wish ; the Design of their Opposition being rather to support it : But those certainly are the People who are about to destroy it, who endeavour to sap and undermine it, by an undue Influence of any Kind.

THE whole Course of this Inquiry, was carried on with equal Temper, and Patience; the several Facts were proved in the most full, solemn, and clear Manner that could be expected, by the Oaths of the Contractors, Inspectors, Commanding Officers, and other Persons. And here it may be justly observed, that the Defects complained of by the Officers must be more apparent and more sensibly observed by them, than they probably could be by any Inspector, or even any Workman however judicious; for these Gentlemen by their being obliged to reside in their several Barracks, in all Seasons and Weather, must observe their Defects, particularly of letting in Water and Smoaking, much better than any Person who only views them in a cursory Manner.

THE Misapplication of large Sums of the public Money; and the *Ignorance*, not to say *Corruption* of this Man, being thus evident; as a Friend to my Country, I cannot but greatly applaud the Design of making a further Inquiry into his Conduct, pursuant to the last Resolution made for that Purpose.

AND sure no Time can be more proper for it than the present, when Witnesses are easily had; and his ill executed Works are still visible; a Delay in this Case may be dangerous, for he may evade Justice by the disappearing of Witnesses, and he may plead the effects of Time hereafter, as a Reason for the several Buildings letting in Water, &c. Without such an Inquiry, what Confidence can the Constituents have in their Representatives, or how can the People comply with Chearfulness to pay such Taxes as are necessary for the Support of the Government; when the public Money is so strangely disposed of, that new Estimates, far exceeding the first Calculation, have been brought in; like a Dutch Reckoning, where, if you dispute

pute the Unreasonableness and Exorbitance of the Bill, the Landlord brings it up every Time with new Additions. Such an Inquiry is not only due to the People, but also a Duty to our Sovereign, who ought to be made acquainted with the Conduct of his Servants, in Order to reward or punish them according to their Deserts.

It is hard to conceive what Motive should induce Persons in Power, at any Time to screen obnoxious Delinquents, except they found such Wretches more willing, to serve their Designs; and fitter Instruments to carry on their *Jobs*, than honest Men. I cannot persuade myself that this Man, though he were ever so willing can be capable to serve any Great Man whatsoever; his Behaviour hath been hitherto so unguarded, and so obnoxious to the Public, that if it doth not appear, that he hath done all that is in his Power to atone for it, by endeavouring to comply with the former Resolution of the House; every unprejudiced Man must be of Opinion, that he must be unworthy to sit longer therein.

THE Honour of the Crown, the Dignity of Parliament, and the Interest of the Nation, all unite in loudly demanding that Justice, which Lenity hath rather too long retarded; in requiring that the Complaints of his Majesty's Troops be redressed, and examined into; and in branding the supposed Delinquent with the Punishment due to his Crimes.

THOUGH this Man, or his Friends, (if such a Man can be supposed to have any) should tell us; that the Game hath been so openly play'd, that the Forbearance of the Nation hath been thought a Kind of Lethargy rather than Patience; and though he should insolently say, we have no right to intermeddle with his Play; he ought to be told, that the Cause is national, and that there is no Spectator

so unconcerned, as not to have some Share in the Stake; and consequently a Title to examine the Cards, and to overlook the Play: Nor can the public have so little Sense as not to know it, or so little Courage as not to assert it. They have lost so much by shuffling and packing that it is high Time to take effectual Care that every Body shall deal above Board for the future. A late Chief Governor of this Kingdom, who hath been equally as remarkable for his Attachment to its true Interest and Happiness, as for his perfect Knowledge of every Thing that could contribute to both; was very sensible of our having foul Play among us, when in his Letter to the late *Thomas Prior, Esq;* after heartily recommending the Encouragement of new Arts and Manufactures to the Gentry of IRELAND, he has these remarkable Words. *These are the Sort of JOBBS that I wish the People of IRELAND would attend to, with as much Industry and Care, as they do to JOBBS of a very different Nature.*

To the PUBLIC.

A MODEST PROPOSAL for UNITING the Kingdoms of BELFESCUE and LAPUTA.

By Sir ARTHUR VAN TRIPE.

HE proposes to erect a BRIDGE, from *Hoath* to *Hollyhead*; being well qualified for this Undertaking as he hath no Apprehensions of a watry Death.

THAT, having sounded his own *Conscience*, and also discovered the Depth of the *Nation's Purse*, the first being certainly much deeper, and the other, as he thinks, as inexhaustible at the *Irish Sea*; and as he hath in some Measure got the better

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of both ; He is encouraged to lay an equal Weight in the *Channel* ; wherefore, he proposes to compose the Peers of the said BRIDGE of the highest *Mountains* in *Ireland* and *Wales*, which he makes no Doubt of removing by his great FAITH, he having more than any *Swadling Preacher*, as appears, by the implicit Belief, he put in his *corrupt Clerk*, and all other Persons he contracted with for *public Works*.

THAT, he will contract for the said BRIDGE, for Sixty Millions Sterling, three fourths to be paid him in *English Stocks* ; and the Remainder in *Irish Money*, if so much can be raised : But, he doth not hereby debar himself from charging, *an exceeding* of Twenty or Thirty Millions when the Work is half finished.

LASTLY, he hopes that his Judgment, Candour, and Integrity, shewn in building, and repairing the REDOUBTS of LAPUTA, will sufficiently display his Abilities for this or any other useful public Work or Undertaking.

*Contracta Pisces Æquora sentiunt
Factis in Altum Molibus :*



T H E
P A T R I O T.
N U M B. V.

Thursday, November, 22d. 1753.

Ego in uno Homine omnia Vitia, quæ possunt in Homine perduto nefarioque esse, reprehendo. Nul- lum esse, dico, Indicium Libidinis, Sceleris, Au- daciæ, quod non in istius unius Vita perspicere possitis.

Cic. Orat. in Verrem.

IT is the Business of a Patriot, not only to be careful of the Liberties of his Countrymen, but also to be watchful of their Morals; as it is universally allowed, that Nothing does so much contribute to the Ruin of Kingdoms and Societies as the abounding of Vice and Immorallity. On this Account, I propose in the Course of these Essays, to draw the most notorious reigning Vices in their true Shapes, and to paint them in their just Colours; that Men, by beholding the natural Deformity of them, and considering what they will end in, may be warned to flee from the Wrath to come. I was interrupted in my Reflections on this Subject by the Account of an uncommon Appearance, observed in the Island of *Ween* or *Scarlet Island* in the *Baltic*, where once stood the Observatory of the celebrated *Tycho Brahe*. The extraordinary Manner in which this Account is introduced, reminded me of the following Lines, which I remember to have read in the *Craftsman*.

*A wond'rous Star doth now appear,
And governs all our Wisemen here;
Tho' it's deluding dangerous Rays
Point out such dirty slippery Ways,
That it's no heavenly Flame, I trow,
But some damn'd Meteor from below.*

MOST of the antient Historians, as a Prelude to the many Revolutions which have happened in the several Countries, whose Historians they relate, give us frequent Accounts of fundry Portents and Prodigies, which appeared to usher in and forewarn the People of these surprizing Events. But as the Distance of the Place, where this Phœnomenon was seen, secures us from its Influence, I am free from all Apprehensions on this Head. I could have wished that my Correspondent had been a little more clear in his Description; as his irregular Method of writing, and the odd Confusion of Images between the Motions of the Meteor, and the Workings of a human Mind, expose him justly to the Censure of correct Criticks. I shall however (notwithstanding his Desire to make what Alterations I thought proper in the Stile and Method) publish his Letter, for the Amusement of my Readers, without any further Remarks.

THERE has lately appeared in this Place a Phœnomenon, which surprizes all that behold it; it is a political Meteor made up of noxious and pestilential Vapours, raised to our very Zenith, hung in the Skies, and blazing as it travels; portending Ruin and Destruction to all such as are so unfortunate as to fall within its balefull Influence: It is remarkable, that though it passed through all the other Constellations it never entered VIRGO;
but

but its Tail was chiefly displayed in *Aquarius*, which Sign Astronomers represent by GANYMEDE.

THE political *Gallilæos* of our Time set themselves to work, and by their Observations have found, that its present stupendous Height has been owing to Causes altogether unknown in Philosophy: in vain had they Recourse at first to the usual Principles; this pestilential Exhalation, drawn up by the wanton Beams of Favour from the Slime and Filth of the World, shining in their superior Orb, puzzled their Philosophy, and baffled all their Researches.

At length, one of the most antient of our Wise-men, upon a close Examination, pretends to have found out that this extraordinary Appearance is nothing but a mortal Composition of such Vices, as could never have supposed to have entered the human Breast, unless they had been inspired by some Minister from Hell: He has endeavoured to explain the Movements of this mysterious Being, and to trace the secret Springs on which they depend; and after much Study and Application has lately published the following System.

I SHALL not advance any Thing that will admit of any Doubt; I shall collect the Observations of the best and wisest Men amongst us, and from them I shall be able to let the World know what this Child of Fortune is made of; and what the Qualifications are, to which he is indebted for this surprising Pitch of Power to which he has attained.

FIRST let us consider his Impudence: Perhaps by some he will not be allowed to have this Quality; but I think we may venture to affirm, that he is not without a competent Share of it; since it is this that has prompted him to undertake desperate Enterprizes, and since it is this that emboldens him to despise the Reproaches of Mankind.

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HIS next favourite Quality is that of lying; which has been a singular Use to him: This has procured him the Favour of the Great; this, has he made Use of to impose on his Patron; to defame and misrepresent those who opposed his Measures; and to blazon forth his own Merit. Has he not represented us as a disaffected Race; grown insolent from our Wealth, and therefore to be restrained in our most valuable Branch of Trade? Nay, has he not sent Messages, which betrayed his abject Fears; and the next Hour has he not denied them? Has he not made Promises and confirmed them with the most solemn Attestations; and the next Moment has he not broke them?

OF Diffimulation he is an excellent Master; he can counterfeit any Humour that he thinks conducive to his Design: He can cozen too most exquisitely; and is the obsequious Servant of every Man whom he judges proper to serve his Purpose: He is prodigal of Promises, and solemnly protests upon every Occasion, that he has Nothing so much at Heart as the public Good; as the Murderer, who mingles Poison for his Guest, he smeared the Goblet's Brim with Honey. Under the hypocritical Mark of promoting the Welfare of his Country, he secretly works its Ruin; like the Conspirators, who, whilst their Daggers were sheathed in *Cæsar's* Breast, cried, long live *Cæsar*.

HE grows fat on Fraud and Oppression, as the Toad on Filth and Venom: His Practice outvies Debauchery, as much as Sodomy simple Fornication; and to call him a Politician, must be by the same Figure, that Pick-pockets stile their Legerdemain an Art and Profession. His Shop of Corruption, like Hell Gates, is always open, where he sits at the Receipt of Custom, and draws the unwary to his Net.

HONESTY

HONESTY, in his Mind, is a mechanic Virtue, and unworthy a great Man; if he ever had any, his Eye-sight deprived him of it; for he no sooner saw the golden Apple of Preferment, than he thought no Means too vile to attain it. To be a Slave to his Word he thinks to be the undoing of a Statesman; and is of Opinion that the Oaths of M—s of S—e are put in the same Scale with those of Lovers; and that Jupiter gives them to the Wind as things of no Obligation, never to be regarded farther than present Interest requires. Though he ought to be a Pillar of the Church, he thinks King *Solomon's* Mistress too antiquated for his Embraces: Perhaps he may think with *Machiavel*, that Religion is an Impediment to great Actions, and therefore resolves to get rid of his Conscience, that he may with less incumbrance manage the Affairs of the State. He balances Merit in the Lake of *Sodom*, where Iron swims, and Feathers sink.

HE might be a Cameleon for his different Appearances, but he knows not how to live upon Air; he is a meer Weathercock, and always faces about, and turns his Backside to every wind, but what blows from Court. He seldom forgets Injuries, or remembers Favours conferred: Great Men, in this respect, are allowed to have treacherous Memories, and he will not part with that Title to Greatness: His Virtue consists in a demure Look, his Policy in Cunning; his Courage in avoiding Danger; his Constancy is Variation; and his Honour is what you think fit to call it, for I know not where to find it: In short, he is a State Hermaphrodite; and like the Satyr in the Fable, blows hot and cold with the same Breath; he never does any thing Praise-worthy, except when he blushes for Shame for playing hide and seek with his own Principles.

Hrs Dignities, which ought to make him respected, serve but to make him more dangerous ; for that Devil can do less Mischief that appears in his own Shape, than he who assumes the Form of an Angel of Light. He is the Reverse of the Members of the Rump Parliament, they set aside the H——e of L——ds as useless, he is for pulling down the Authority of the H——e of C——s. It requires a metaphysical Brain to define him ; he should have Lucifer for his Father by his Pride and Ambition, and Eve for his Mother by his Readiness to comply with Temptation. As I have given the Pedigree of this Hero, the Emblasonry of his Ensigns naturally follow.

He bears, Party per Pale,

Gods Glory, and his own Interest counterchanged.
In Chief, *Vice, Luxury and Pleasure* ;
Over all, in an *Escutcheon of Pretence*,
A Love for this Island.

Ensigned, with an Helmet befitting his Degree,
the Vizor open, discovering
Confidence, Ignorance, and Impudence ;
Mantled
with *Corruption Vert, and Tyranny Gules*,
doubled with *Hypocrisy*
over a Wreath of *Pride and Ambition* ;

His Crest,
A breathless Stripling couchant
endorsed
with a Goat rampant Proper.

Motto
Improbis hic Amor est.

THE following Epitaph on Cardinal *Wolfey*, was found among the Ruins at *Whitehall*; and published some Years ago.

This Monument consign'd to latest Times,
 Stands to perpetuate *Wolfey's* daring Crimes;
 With wicked Lust, and wild Ambition cloy'd,
 He Fame alike, and Infamy enjoy'd.
 Vers'd in the Art of Lying, from his Youth,
 His Genius scorn'd the mean Restraints of Truth.
 Good Nature, Reason, Argument and Sense
 Were all supply'd with shameless Impudence.
 A purple Robber, who for impious Gain,
 Saw a torn Nation bleed at every Vein.
 Rash to provoke, and yet afraid of War,
 He sued for Peace with Bribes, and Sordidness
 of Prayer.
 Attend ye Courtiers, though with Power elate
 Be warn'd by his Example, shun his Fate.



THE P A T R I O T.

N U M B. VI.

Thursday, November, 29th. 1753.

Vendidit hic Auro Patriam,——
—— Fixit Leges Pretio atque refixit.

I HAVE in some former Papers made it my Study, to recommend to my Readers the Practice of that Virtue, for which their Ancestors were
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particularly famous; and which is called the *Love of one's Country*. This Love to our Country, as an Author celebrated for his Patriotism and Loyalty explains it, as a moral Virtue, is a fixed Disposition of Mind to promote the Safety, Wellfare and Reputation of the Community in which we are born; and of the Constitution under which we are protected. As those Actions, which are most celebrated in History, and which are read with the greatest Admiration, are such as proceed from this Principle; so on the contrary, none have been placed in a more odious Light, than such as have tended to extinguish or restrain this laudable Passion: Hence we find, that no Persons have been treated by Historians with more Ignominy and Contempt, none more naturally raise Detestation in an honest Breast, than those who have betrayed the Interest of their Country. On this Account, we find that *Virgil* in the Words prefixed to this Paper, amongst those whom he judges to deserve the worst Place in Hell, has number'd such as have sacrificed their Country to private Profit.

THOUGH the Methods, by which a State may lose its Liberties, appear to be various; yet, upon a close Examination, we shall find all national Misfortunes, generally owing to one great original Source; and that is, when the mind of every Individual is contracted to such narrow selfish Views, that he hath no extensive Notions of Virtue, or generous Sentiments of the public Good; but considers himself apart from the Community of which he is a Member; and thinks that he hath fully answered his Duty, if he improves his own Fortune, and advances the Interests of his Family and Relations.

I WOULD have such a Man consider the Answer of the old *Roman*, who, when the *Samnite* Ambassadors offered him an immense Sum to betray his Country,

Country, rather chose to live on Roots and Pulse in the most humble Manner, than to purchase all the Pomp and Luxury of Wealth, at the Price of the *public Safety*. The firm Adherence of our Representatives to the Principles of Justice and Liberty, must convince the World, that the noble Spirit equally animates their Breasts: Nor have I the least Doubt but that, if their Country should ever call upon them, they would emulate this *Roman* Ardour, assert the Cause of Freedom with Firm- and Intrepidity; and sacrifice every private View to the public Wellfare and Happiness.

It is a Remark, confirmed by the Experience of all Ages, that a virtuous Man may be ambitious; but an ambitious Man without Virtue can be supported by Corruption only. Whenever ill-designing Ministers have endeavoured to subvert the Rights of a free People, they have had Recourse to these Arts; and their own Money was made the Instrument of reducing them to Bondage. And here I cannot but congratulate my Countrymen, that if in any future Time such Arts should be employed against us, the Honour, Justice and Integrity for which this Nation has been famous, will render them fruitless. The more this public Spirit is endeavoured to be suppressed by wicked Men, when such are in Power, the more it will exert itself; it rises under Oppression with greater Force, and shines forth with superior Lustre. An honest Man, like a chaste Matron, will resent with Indignation any Attempt to bribe him from his Duty, and regard it as an Attack upon his Honour: Nay, even Interest should prompt those, who cannot be urged by a nobler Motive, to oppose such Measures; for he who seeks to gain a precarious Fortune, at the Expence of his Country, acts with as little Consideration, as the Person who could be bribed to infect the Air, which

he is obliged to breath in common with others.

YET, that such Practices have often proved effectual, the History of all Countries sufficiently demonstrates. Mr. *Addison* observes, that this Method of bribing a Man to an Opinion has frequently succeeded, when all other Kinds of reasoning have been used to no Purpose. He who is furnished with Arguments of this Nature, is possessed of a considerable Advantage over his Antagonist; and they have this peculiar Privilege, that they are obvious to the meanest Capacities. *Philip of Macedon* was a Man of most invincible reasoning this Way; he refuted by it the Wisdom of *Athens*, confounded their Politics, and at length argued them out of all their Liberties

If we consider the Manner in which old *Rome* lost her Freedom, it will be a farther Proof of the Efficacy and Danger of this Policy. The first Source of the Calamities of that great Republic, was the Bribery that was introduced by ambitious Men; by which Means, the Zeal of serving their Country was exchanged for the Baseness of flattering their Oppressors. When this Poison takes Place, there is hardly any Antidote to be found against it; this *Circæan* Cup turns Demigods and Heroes into Brutes and Monsters. It consumed the greatest and most daring Spirits of the Commonwealth, and at length so wasted their Strength and Vigour, that they tamely submitted to the Tyranny of one Man, and gradually fell into that effeminate and slavish Disposition of Mind, which at present prevails in *Italy*.

I CANNOT look back upon the State of that turbulent Republic, without a secret Satisfaction in considering the Advantages we enjoy above them. We are secured from the melancholy Prospect of viewing our own Money made Use of to sell us to Slavery, to reward those who are willing to betray

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us, or to influence or corrupt those who seem inclined to promote our Interest. Hence it happens, that this Island can never be infamous for a *Sejanus*, who, though sprung from the Dregs of the People, grasped at all Power, and endeavoured to rise to the Summit of Ambition on the Ruins of a Nation; or a *Wolsey*, under whose Influence, Liberty hung down her Head, Property grew precarious, Corruption increased, Bribery was established, Religion declined; and the Church was ashamed to see herself committed to the Care of an ambitious, weak, worldly Prostitute. If ever it should be my Misfortune to see Corruption, which is the last deadly Symptom of agonizing Liberty, creep into our Government; I shall then venture to prophesy, that Slavery will, like a universal Leprosy overspread and deform our Constitution; and shall therefore cease all fruitless Efforts for the public Safety, and with a bleeding Heart bid an eternal Farewell to our expiring Liberties.

SUCH Sentiments may be ridiculed, but I am certain they are such as ought to inspire a Patriot. Those, who in all their Actions and Counsels have never had any View but their own private Profit, will use their utmost Endeavours to persuade the World, that no Man acts upon Principle; but that all are swayed by particular Malice and a vain Spirit of Party. But such Slanderers must be abashed and confused, when they consider the disinterested Zeal which our Parliament pursues the public Good; their Steadiness in adhering to the Laws of Truth and Justice, and their Resolution in supporting the Rights of those, who have entrusted them with their Properties, their Lives, and what is dearer than Life, their Liberty: When they see at the Head of this glorious Assembly a Man, whose Interests are interwoven with, and attached to those of his Country; who quits the calm Retreats of
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Life, and contends with Faction and the Embroilments of a State, only because his Country calls for his Service; who makes the Promotion of her Advantages, the Defence of her Privileges, and repressing the Growth of Oppression his chief Study, and the Rule of all his Actions; who would scorn to give up the least Branch of Property to the largest Bribe from the Hands of Corruption. Such a Patriot is the Guardian Angel of the Country he inhabits, busy to avert even the most distant Evils; and to procure and maintain Peace, Happiness, and the greatest of human Blessings, LIBERTY. I am certain, that it is needless to point out the Man, to whom this Character belongs, since every Friend to this Country will know the Picture, without seeing ROGER's Name under it. Nor have I the least Apprehension of being accused of Flattery, which a true Patriot disdains, or of forfeiting that Impartiality which every public Writer should observe; the concurring Voice of the Nation frees me from this Censure. If I act from Prejudice, at least I am certain, it is an honest Prejudice, and such as proceeds from a Love of Virtue, and my Country, and therefore such a one as I shall always indulge.

The following Letter, which I lately received from an unknown Correspondent being curious, may probably be entertaining to my Readers.

S I R,

THE Rules which Philosophers have laid down to estimate the real Value of Honesty, and to expose the Deformity of Vice are generally liable to great Fallacy, and therefore of little Use in Life. Vice often lurks secure beneath the Mask of Hypocrisy, and meets
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with undeserved Praise and Reward; whilst *Virtue* remains unregarded for want of being truly known, and meets with unjust Reproach from the Misrepresentations of Malice and Envy. To remedy this Inconvenience, after much Study and Application, I have invented a *BALLANCE* for the human Mind; and have contrived it with such Art, that it will examine with the greatest Exactness any Man's Talents, take the Weight of his Merit and Failings, his Virtues and his Vices. That you may have a more particular Idea of its Use, I shall lay before you some Experiments, which I lately made by the Help of this Machine, which I hope, will be found as useful in political, as the common Ballance is in mechanical and natural Philosophy.

You will not be surpris'd to find (as I am particular solicitous about the Fate of Patriotism) that I first try'd my Scales in examining the present Weight of this public *Virtue*. It gave me a sensible Pleasure to see the Scale in which it was placed prevail; though I observed several Persons contending with all their Force to pull down the opposite Beam, amongst whom I could perceive the Arch Tempter particularly busy; and throwing in several Weights, on which were inscribed Places, Pensions, Bribes, Promises, &c. As he was engaged in this Employment, I seized and fixed him in one of the Scales; I could hardly forbear laughing at his scared Looks, but upon my promising him that he should come to no Harm, he sat quiet. I attempted to examine the Virtues of his Mind, his Truth, Virtue and Honesty; but I could find no Weight light enough to estimate them properly, so that I am induced to believe he has no such Qualities. I next put his Vices into the Ballance, his Pride, Lying, Dissimulation, and beastly Lust, and I was as much surpris'd to find that none of the common Weights with which I had provided myself, were heavy enough to move them. I therefore placed in the opposite Scale, the public and private Virtues of a certain Man, whose Zeal for the Interest of this Country is well known;
and

and the Priest with all his Load of Vices immediately flew up and kicked the Beam ; while the Patriot Scale stood immoveable. Though I afterwards added to the bad Qualities of the Patriarch, the Mock-Patriotism of a canting Hypocrite, the Ingratitude of a Judas, the Impudence and Treachery of a sanctified Spy, nay, the united Vices of his whole Faction. I found that the Virtues of this single Man outweighed them all. I intended to make several more Experiments of this Nature, the Result of which, I shall also take the Liberty to send you, that they may be communicated to the Public through your Paper, till then I remain yours, &c.



T H E
P A T R I O T.
N U M B. VII.

Thursday, December, 6th. 1753.

Ego, si ab improbis, et perditis Rempublicam teneri viderem, sicut et meis Temporibus scimus, et nonnullis aliis accidisse accepimus, non modo Præmiis, quæ apud me minimum valent, sed ne periculis quidem compulsus ullis, ad eorum Causam me adjungerem.

Cic. Epist.

IT has been observed, that Men born to a private Station, when advanced to a superior Rank, ever make the worst Use of Power : Their Integrity retires to give Place to their Fortune ; too rank Preferment stifles their Honesty, and thenceforward

forward they aim only to advance their own narrow Interest; and frequently blow short lived Sparks to warm their private Fortunes from the public Ashes of a ruined Country.

It may appear surprizing, that Men sufficiently warned by the Experience of former Times, should adventure on the very same Precipices, on which all that went before broke their Necks: But we must remember that Ambition is as blind as Love; they are gazing at the Stars till they fall into the Ditch: Their Eyes are always fixed on the glittering Vanities above, suggested by a deluded Imagination, but they never look down on the Wrecks and shatter'd Fortunes, forfeited Heads, and infamous Memories of those who pursued the same dangerous Paths.

EXAMINE them in antient History, (for meddle not with our own Times) you will find, that they have abused the sacred Names of their Masters, and made them become a Passport to Mischiefs; their Authority a Sanctuary to Crimes, their Revenues but Fuels to Debauchery, and Rewards for Corruption; their Power an Instrument of Revenge, and a Scourge and Plague to those very People whom it ought to cherish and protect.

THOUGH wise Antiquity allowed no Entrance into the Temple of Honour but through that of Virtue; yet such is the Degeneracy of later Times, that we have seen Men crowd themselves into Credit by the Recommendation of Vice; their Crimes are the sole Steps by which they mount the Ladder of Preferment; they grasp at the wide Circle of Honours, and distribute them alone to their Favourites, Parasites, and Hisselings, who make themselves valuable by shameful secret Services, whose Payment is not publickly to be demanded. What long since was observed of *Sejanus* holds true with Regard to many later swoln Bladders of Grandeur, that

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their Favour is not to be purchas'd without some notable Crime ; you must part with your Honour, nay your Soul if you expect Promotion from such Spirits and stand gaping ; like greedy Cameleons, to be puffed up with the tainted Air of a haughty and luxurious Master.

SHALL Purity of Heart and Greatness of Mind fall into Disrepute, whilst Corruption and Servility are openly cherished, honoured and rewarded ? Shall the sordid Consideration of Bribes and Favour outweigh both Guilt and Reproach ? Shall the false Glitter of Office, Form and Title be made Use of to dazzle the Eye of Honesty, and to obscure the native Splendor of Honour ? These are Principles which must be received with Detestation by all true Patriots ; and which every Man who would appear the seeming Friend of Liberty will publicly disavow : Yet such must be the Consequence, if ever uncontrollable Power should fall into the Hands of a Man, who is an Enemy to our Constitution ; and who knows no one Art of Government but Corruption. Will he not then be able to cheat us of our Freedom as effectually, as *Cardinal Mazarine* did the *French*. It was the Policy of this *Churchman* to lull the People into a lethargic Stupidity, till he at last came to such a Pitch of Insolence, as to declare openly, that Honesty was fit only for Tradesmen ; and not to be thought of in any public Affairs. Upon this *Cardinal de Retz* has the following Remark ; when Governours lose all Shame, the Governed lose all Respect ; and it is usual at such a Time for the People to recover from their Lethargy by falling into Convulsions. At length, by secret Arts he so entirely deprived them even of the Shadow of Liberty, that the Parliament was forbid to meddle with any Matters of State : And this fatal Catastrophe was owing to the want of public Spirit in the Nation, and true Patriots to oppose

oppose his dangerous Power. They all hated the Minister, nay foresaw their impending Ruin; but few of them had so true a Love for their Country to sacrifice their private Views to the Re-establishment of their Freedom. By such Measures the Liberties of *France* were overturned; and by such Measures——But here I chuse to draw a Veil over the disagreeable Prospect, my Design being not to exasperate, but to open the Eyes of my Countrymen.

SUBTLE Politicians in introducing Innovations follow the Example of Time itself, which produces great Changes but quietly, and by degrees scarce to be perceived. *Tacitus* informs us, that by these Practices, *Augustus* paved his Way to Dominion: With the specious Title of PONTIFEX MAXIMUS, and under the Pretence, that he had Nothing at Heart but the Good of the People, he grew insolent by Degrees, and at length engrossed the whole Power into his Hands.

LATER Historians furnish us with many Examples of the same Policy; but I hope these are sufficient to forewarn us against those subtle Underminers, who say, that it is Time enough to be alarmed when our Liberties are openly and publicly attacked: I shall answer to such, that our Efforts will then be fruitless: This our Enemies know; they are sensible that if they can secure by Stratagem the Outworks that guard our Constitution, the Citadel may be easily taken by Assault. Say not with yourselves, lo! we have chased away our Enemies, and they are afraid of us. Though they be chased and repelled for a Time, their Malice and Fury abideth; though the Dragon be driven to his Den, yet is his Sting and Poyson still in Force. It is dangerous in natural Life, and often fatal in Politics, to have too great a Confidence in our Strength; a vigorous Constitution may with-

stand a high Fever, but no Constitution can resist the Attacks of a slow Poyson, if an Antidote be not timely applied: Slight Distempers at first despised, prove frequently mortal; whereas, to meet the Disease before it has gathered Strength, is a probable Means to ascertain the Cure; and *Venienti occurrere Morbo* may be as just a Maxim in Government, as an Aphorism in Physick.

WHATEVER Expedients can be found to allay those Heats and Animosities, which break us into different Factions and Interests, cannot but be usefull to the Public; and highly tend to its Safety, Strength, and Reputation. We have been long tossed in a troubled Ocean, exposed to raging Winds and merciless Waves, and our Vessel will be Shattered and Sunk, unless we Seize on the *Jonas*, whose Wickedness hath raised the Storm; when the Ship is freed from the Weight of his Crimes, the Waves will fall, and the Tempest cease, and we shall sail on with fair and prosperous Gales. May we not question this Disturber of our Peace, as the Seaman did that Prophet, *tell us, thou for whose Cause this Evil is come upon us, why hast thou done this? What is thine Occupation, and whence comest thou? What is thy Country, or of what People art thou?*

REMEMBER, ye Patriots; that you do not only combat present Evils, but attempts to entail those Evils, on you and your Posterity; that if you cease the Combat, you give up the Cause; and that he, who does not upon every occasion renew his Claim, may forfeit his Right. If *Cato* may be justly censured for abandoning the Cause of Liberty, which he would not however survive, what shall we say of those who embrace it faintly, pursue it irresolutely, grow tired of it when they have much to hope; and give it up when they have any thing to fear. The Steadiness, and unbiaised Justice of our
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Representatives, who are the Glory of this, and envy of other Nations, convinces me, that such Exhortations are unnecessary. Honest Minds will have this Comfort in the worst of Times, that the Arts of Deceit and Corruption do continually grow weaker, and less effectual and Serviceable to them that use them; whereas, Integrity gains Strength by Use, it confirms the Reputation, and encourages those who are engaged in the same Cause.

I CANNOT conclude this Subject more properly than with the following Letter, which was formerly sent by the Freeholders of a County in *England* to their Representatives.

WE the Freeholders of the County of— take Occasion to put you in Mind; that we elected you to represent us without any other Motive than the good Opinion we conceived of your Integrity and your Love for your Country. We hope that you will keep this Point in View in all your Actions; but we must remind you, that there is more than ordinary Reason to be watchful at the present Juncture, when (by some Transactions) we have Reason to apprehend that attempts will be made *which can have no Consequence but to Subvert our Constitution*. On this Account, we hope that no private Engagements, no Family Interests will prevail on you, or any Gentleman to keep from that Place, where the Absence of one honest Man may occasion the Loss of the public Liberty.”

“ As public Criminals, who have hitherto escaped with Impunity, may think their Crimes authorized, their Power established, and their Wantonness Supported; let not Oppression (however dignified with Titles) pass uncensured. We conjure you to use all Means in prosecuting national Justice, and in branding the Author of Corruption, that
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intestine Evil, by which this Nation must be enslaved, unless it is timely curbed; since the Liberty of the whole depends upon the Virtue and Integrity of Individuals."

"ALL Freeholders, who have the Interest of their Country at Heart, have at this Time a watchfull Eye to the Conduct of their Representatives; and are determined, for the future, to reject those who no sooner Scented the Air of a Court, than they forgot the Friends who confided in them, and the Country who nourished them."

"REMEMBER that none are so proper to preserve the common Interest, and provide Remedies for the Grievances of the Nation, as the Men of Property in it, who are Sharers in every common Oppression; and will be naturally led to study the common Good, because they shall partake of it. In a Word, exert a native Spirit in opposing the bad Designs of Men *with foreign Hearts.*"

AS the Chief use of the Stage is to hold a Mirrour to Nature, to shew the Amiableness of Virtue, and the Deformity of Vice; it has given me particular Pleasure to see the historical Play of HENRY the VIII advertised for next Saturday, where we may behold the Efforts of ill-guided Ambition in the Character of WOLSEY; who descended from Mean Parentage, and unexpectedly advanced to the highest Honour of the Church, forsook his God to disturb the Peace of a People, and to oppress a Nation. An Example of the Justice of Providence in punishing such Crimes must at all times convey an useful Moral; but it is more judiciously exhibited at present, when even the most Censorious cannot form invidious Parallels.